GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4488
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
ESTABLISHMENT OF PASSPORT OFFICES IN MADHYA PRADESH
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passport offices in Madhya Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more passport offices in the State; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) There is only one Passport Office in Madhya Pradesh, located at Bhopal.

(b) No, Sir. Opening of a new Passport Office is governed by certain criteria such as the location of existing offices and volume of applications from a particular region. Besides, as per the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament of the Ministry of External Affairs there should be at least 50000 applications per annum from the area where a new Passport Office is to be opened. The number of passport applications received annually by Passport Office, Bhopal even before the creation of the State of Chattisgarh was around 40000 only. This does not justify opening of more passport offices in the State of Madhya Pradesh at present.

(c) Does not arise.